

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to Applicants Remarks filed on 02/03/2010.

Claims 1, 8, 17-19, 22-23 and 25 are amended.

Claims 3, 6-7, 9, 11-12, 20 and 26-54 are cancelled.

- The Application has been amended as the examiner suggested on 12/23/2009.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 13-17 are allowed.

With regard to claim 1, the closest prior art of record Alt et al. (US 5,898,384) teaches an apparatus for centrally controlling a wide area lighting at a plurality of remote, widely-dispersed different sites to be illuminated comprising:

a) a plurality of wide area lighting systems each on-site at a different site, each on-site wide area lighting system

Gordin et al. (US 4,712,167) teaches

- i. a plurality of arrays of lighting fixtures
- ii. each array comprising a set of high intensity light sources and ballast circuits adapted to be switched to connect or disconnect to a relatively high voltage power source.

However, Alt or Gordin alone or in combination fails to teach or fairly suggest

b) a central control system comprising:

i. an off-site central controller including a database of events and conditions related to arrays of each wide-area lighting system and a component adapted to issue data related to a function of the corresponding wide-area lighting system and an event or condition for the wide-area lighting system or an array of the lighting system; the database of events and conditions for each wide-area lighting system being changeable at the off-site central controller;

ii. a plurality of on-site remote devices, one for each wide-area lighting system, a said the remote device operably connected to each set of light sources and ballast circuits of arrays of the wide-area system;

iii. a communication link adapted to communicate the data from the central controller to any remote controller of a corresponding wide-area lighting system of the plurality of remote controllers according to the database of events and conditions at the off-site central controller so that the database of the central controller, can control one or more functions of arrays of remote, widely dispersed lighting system.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KIET DOAN whose telephone number is (571)272-7863. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Appiah can be reached on 571-272-7904. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kiet Doan/
Examiner, Art Unit 2617

/Charles N. Appiah/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617